

**Village of Clinton
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025**

Mayor Bud McDaniel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 7:00 PM in Clinton Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deanna Jenkins and recited by those present.

Council Members Present: Jan Godwin, Rita Joseph, Marissa Gensimore, Matt Steiner and Keith Clackler. Ross Blankenship was absent.

Others Present: Deanna Jenkins, resident; Brett Fegan, Kimble.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Godwin made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Mrs. Gensimore.

Roll Call: Clackler, Godwin, Steiner, Gensimore, and Joseph voted yes. Motion passes.

Mr. Steiner made a motion to amend the schedule, second by Mrs. Godwin.

Mr. Brett Fegan from Kimble would like to speak at this time.

Roll Call: Godwin, Steiner, Gensimore, Joseph, and Clackler voted yes. Motion passes.

Mr. Fegan presented the new Kimble contract. He discussed the number of employees they have and number of trucks. He said the Village trash goes to a Dover landfill, makes methane gas and is converted into bio fuel that fuels 80% of their trucks. He is not aware of any other hauler in Ohio that does this.

We have been with Kimble since 2006. Some of the pickup delays were coming out of COVID along with shortage of drivers. They have recruited more people, and not everyone can drive a truck. The current contract extension ends March 31, 2025. The next extension is out three years to March 31, 2028. The price for unlimited with 95-gallon card is \$20.76. It was increased to \$21.67 per month, 4% increase, the consumer price index. Built into this rate is a 4-yard dumpster, 2-yard dumpster, 3-yard dumpster, 95-gallon trash, and 65-gallon recycle bin. The rate that everyone in the Village pays covers the dumpsters. These are good rates and if anyone does not want to pay for unlimited, they can purchase bags at \$13.50 a month. With our unlimited service, they pick up what is put out. They will also get out of the trucks, but many haulers will not. The price listed on the handouts is for the first year. They look at CPI for each year - what has always been done.

Mayor McDaniel said they have kept prices down. Several years ago, we had complaints, but you have come through with flying colors with respect to pricing.

Mr. Fagen said Mr. Kimble is very honest and we don't just throw numbers at a board. We take several factors into what we charge.

He was asked about putting out big items like a mattress, or washing machine but calling them first. Mr. Fagen stated that you don't have to call in first, that helps. It's unlimited pickup, reasonable household trash, 3 x 3 x 6. The requirement is also to wrap items – bed bug issues with mattresses. It may not get picked up if not wrapped. They take TVs but the old, huge ones may sit a while if there is only one guy - can't pick up. Washing machines and flat screen tv's are not a problem.

They offer bag service and the green bags are a way they know it's theirs to pick up. Almost everyone in the Village is under the unlimited plan. Recycle is built into this and they absolutely recycle. It's not all thrown into together. Mr. Johnson at Kimble sells the recycle and it's taken to a facility.

We need to get back to Kimble by March 31 regarding the new contract extension.

Mr. Blankenship has been looking at other providers to get quotes from, but we are running out of time.

Unfinished Business

There is no new information on the signage. We are getting quotes for Village Hall and the Fire Department. Mr. Steiner wants to get with Bev Wasman to go over some options and get her blessing and move forward.

Mayor's Communications

Mayor McDaniel reported that the Federal grant for Clinton Road is still frozen but hopefully the funds, \$1.2 million, will be released soon.

He stated that he and Mr. Steiner will be meeting with New Franklin regarding our fire department.

The Storm Water Management Plan article in the Community Newsletter is what Summit County used to do for the Village. They would have continued doing it, but for a lot of money. Basically, it would be a lot cheaper if we did it ourselves. The engineer and solicitor will be at the next meeting to address this.

Mrs. Godwin asked what are they doing. Mr. McDaniel said monitoring the water into and out of our ditches. Keeping streams and rivers nice and clean. Summit County is pushing this on to the communities, and Mr. Steiner continued to report that if they would have continued doing for us, they would have taxed the residents for it, per household. We started our own district to avoid that expense to the residents, and the Village general fund will absorb this cost. We will save a lot over the coming years. This will all be addressed at the next meeting.

Mrs. Gensimore asked when they were meeting with New Franklin and was told on February 27, 2025. She said they still owe us money. The Safety Committee may need to meet on this as well.

Council Communications and Council Committee Reports

Mr. Steiner said, regarding Public Utilities, we had discussion tonight about the Kimble Contract and will need get with Mr. Blankenship about this and schedule a meeting quick.

Citizens Comments

Deanna Jenkins read the following:

"I want to commend each of you for running our village to the best of your abilities. There's tremendous responsibility you were sworn in to take on and I'm sure the hours are long and the pay is minimal.

Every one of you up there is a leader; together you are a team of leaders. As leaders, you are held to a higher standard because of the influence you have. As leaders you represent our village every time

you make an appearance, or let your voice be heard in public. You are accountable to the village for the actions you take on its behalf and the words you use when speaking of our town. Each of you set the example. The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team. A leader's attitude and general disposition often reveal as much about them as their competence and experience, sometimes more. Each of you are leaders. But are you each a great leader?

Great leaders have many qualities; empathy, vision, integrity, collaboration, and respect to name a few. I'm focusing on 2 this evening; collaboration and respect.

COLLABORATION means to foster teamwork, build strong relationships within a team and value diverse perspectives. Great ideas come about when working together, not tearing each other down on social media. As leaders you are going to disagree. As great leaders you should disagree respectfully, put aside personal grievances and come together to do what's best for our village.

RESPECT is defined as treating EVERYONE with dignity and valuing their contributions. Respect is not rolling your eyes when someone says something you don't like or publicly cutting down council members and members of our fire department. A great leader influences through respect. Your position gives you authority however your behavior either earns or loses you respect, not only with those you lead but also with those that you lead with.

A member of council stated that most people don't know how to request meeting minutes or even know what meeting minutes are. If that is a fact, shouldn't a great leader use the social media platform to educate the villagers on what meeting minutes are and how to find them? Empower them so they could be informed and make their own educated decisions. So, I ask again, are you a great leader?"

Mayor McDaniel thanked her for her interest in what is going on.

Resolutions and Ordinances

First Readings

Ordinance No. O-25-03

An Ordinance Amending Codified Ordinance Section 121.02, Entitled "Rules," and Declaring it to be an Emergency.

Mrs. Gensimore asked about this Ordinance. Specifically, the Committee Schedule not being flexible and she said that is not true. She explained why she was questioning this statement. The schedule was built to be flexible. She pointed out the statement, the schedule does not adequately serve the Village, and she does not understand that either. She explained the committees are free to schedule more time. Where it states it impedes council in ways, she fails to see how the schedule impedes the execution of laws and policies. The Whereas's are confusing and not accurate.

Mr. Steiner said this was discussed in committee. The intent was to use a different schedule to be "as needed," and get rid of the schedule and eliminate the vice president position. The wording is legalese and we can talk with the solicitor at the next meeting about the wording.

There are no Second Readings.

Third Readings

Resolution No. R-25-02

A Resolution Authorizing All Actions Necessary to Accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) 2025 Energized Community Grant, and Declaring an Emergency.

Mrs. Godwin made a motion to adopt, second by Mr. Clackler.

Mayor McDaniel stated this is a grant we get every year from NOPEC. This is for \$2,500. They have made these grants possible to us and they negotiate our utility cost for us as well.

Roll Call: Steiner, Joseph, Gensimore, Clackler, and Godwin voted yes. Motion passes.

New Business – No discussion.

Council General Discussion

Mrs. Gensimore asked Mr. Steiner when people voted for the combined station, he felt they were voting for it not realizing it would be a limited thing. He said he still thinks that way and does not think people would vote indefinitely to build a new fire station. She said it was not presented that way on the ballot. She does not remember when she voted. Mr. Steiner does not have the ballot language. You don't build a new fire station for 10 years. We bought a house and property and New Franklin put up the second building for us. He does not feel voters allowed us to do that for just a period of 10 years. We left being a volunteer fire department to being a paid fire department. You can't go back to volunteer, that's forever, so we always have to have a paid fire department.

Mayor McDaniel remembers this when it all started as a spectator. Everything indicated that this was a deal going forward and the first part was for 10 years, renewed for 3. He said we didn't assume this was temporary. It would be ongoing. This is where we were, and we will see what happens.


Presentation of Purchase Orders and Bills for Approval

Mr. Steiner pointed out the solicitor payment for last month was \$5,500. We used him a lot, due to the codification of the ordinances. This was an update and we found a company that will keep up with our updates and the ORC tied into them.


Mrs. Joseph made a motion to approve the bills, second by Mrs. Godwin.

Roll Call: Gensimore, Joseph, Steiner, Godwin, and Clackler voted yes. Motion passes.


Mrs. Joseph made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM, second by Mr. Steiner.



Mayor Bud McDaniel



Matt Steiner, President of Council



Leah Weirick, Fiscal Officer